

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: CH-78 (~~PACS B14~~) Construction Date: 1761, circa 1840
Name: Pleasant Hill
Location: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

Private/Private residence/Occupied/Excellent/Not accessible

Description:

Pleasant Hill was previously inventoried by the Maryland Historical Trust in the 1970s; however, an extensive survey form was not completed. Pleasant Hill is a 2½-story, 3-bay Tidewater house south of Pomfret Road, in the vicinity of Pomfret, Charles County. The house has four sections, a 1-story east kitchen wing, a 2-story section, the 2½-story main block, and a recently constructed west wing, connected by a hyphen. The original part of the house, constructed in 1761, consisted of the east kitchen wing and the first story of the 2-story section. The main block was constructed circa 1840, and the west wing was constructed in 1992. The main block has a 2-story full-width integrated porch on the front elevation, and a 2-story glass enclosed porch on the rear elevation. The structure has a wood shingle, side-gable roof on each section. The house has four brick chimneys. One chimney is located on the east exterior wall of the kitchen wing, the second chimney is located in the 2-story section very near the east exterior wall of the main block, the third chimney is located on the west exterior wall of the main block, and the fourth chimney is located on the south wall of the west wing. The kitchen wing and the first story of the 2-story section are of Flemish bond brick construction; the second story is of wood-frame construction with wood clapboards. The main block is of wood-frame construction with wood clapboards, and the west wing is of wood-frame construction with brick veneer and wood clapboard siding. The house has a brick foundation. There are several different window types. The kitchen wing, 2-story section, and main block have 9/9, 6/6, and 4/4 double-hung wood, and 9- and 12-light wood casements. The west wing has 6/6 double-hung wood and 4-light casements, and the hyphen has 9/9 double-hung wood. The majority of windows have wood shutters.

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: CH-78 ~~(PACS B147)~~ Construction Date: 1761, circa 1840

Name: Pleasant Hill

Location: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

Significance:

Pleasant Hill is as an outstanding example of a Tidewater house. The structure retains integrity of form and materials, especially the intact Flemish-bond brick of the original structure. The setting of the house, surrounded by a wooded ravine, retains its historical associations. The west wing and hyphen, constructed in 1992 are of an architectural style sympathetic to the original design, and the rear porch alteration does not significantly detract from the architectural integrity of the house. Pleasant Hill was originally situated on 80.94 hectares (200 acres) of "Green's Inheritance" purchased by John Spalding in 1713 and inherited by his grandson, Basil Spalding. According to the records of the Charles County Tax Assessor, a house was constructed on the land in 1761, when Basil Spalding built Pleasant Hill. Pleasant Hill appears on the Maryland Geological Survey's 1840 Map of Eastern Maryland with 1860 Additions. The house and 70.82 hectares (175 acres) remained in the Spalding family until 1911 when they were sold to Julia Sinclair. In 1919 Julia and John Sinclair sold the property to Jeremiah Mudd. The property remained in the Mudd family until 1991 when the current owners, Donald and Elizabeth Rice, acquired the house and its associated 1.83 hectare (4.54 acre) parcel. In 1996, an adjacent parcel historically associated with the house was purchased, increasing the size of the property to approximately 11.5 hectares (28.5 acres).

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
U.S. 301 South Corridor Transportation Study

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic Pleasant Hill

and/or common Rice Property

2. Location:

street & number 9205 Marshall Corner Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Pomfret

☒ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Charles

3. Classification:

Category☐ district☒ building(s)☐ structure☐ site☐ object**Ownership**☐ public☒ private☐ both**Public Acquisition**☐ in process☐ being considered☒ not applicable**Status**☒ occupied☐ unoccupied☐ work in progress**Accessible**☐ yes: restricted☐ yes: unrestricted☒ no**Present Use**☐ agriculture☐ commercial☐ education☐ entertainment☐ government☐ industrial☐ military☐ transportation☐ museum☐ park☒ private☐ residence☐ religious☐ scientific☐ other:

4. Owner of Property: (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Donald and Elizabeth Rice

street & number 9205 Marshall Corner Road

telephone no.:

city, town Pomfret

state and zip code MD 20675

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Charles County

liber 1568

street & number 101 Catalpa Drive

folio 447

city, town La Plata

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Sites in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties

date 1980

☐ federal☒ state☐ county☐ local

depository/survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville

state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No.: CH-78 (PAGE B14)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Resource Count: 5

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Pleasant Hill was previously inventoried by the Maryland Historical Trust in the 1970s; however, an extensive survey form was not completed. Pleasant Hill is a 2½-story, 3-bay Tidewater house south of Pomfret Road, in the vicinity of Pomfret, Charles County. The house has four sections, a 1-story east kitchen wing, a 2-story section, the 2½-story main block, and a recently constructed west wing, connected by a hyphen. The original part of the house, constructed in 1761, consisted of the east kitchen wing and the first story of the 2-story section. The main block was constructed circa 1840, and the west wing was constructed in 1992. The main block has a 2-story full-width integrated porch on the front elevation, and a 2-story glass enclosed porch on the rear elevation.

The structure has a wood shingle, side-gable roof on each section. The house has four brick chimneys. One chimney is located on the east exterior wall of the kitchen wing, the second chimney is located in the 2-story section very near the east exterior wall of the main block, the third chimney is located on the west exterior wall of the main block, and the fourth chimney is located on the south wall of the west wing. The kitchen wing and the first story of the 2-story section are of Flemish bond brick construction; the second story is of wood-frame construction with wood clapboards. The main block is of wood-frame construction with wood clapboards, and the west wing is of wood-frame construction with brick veneer and wood clapboard siding. The house has a brick foundation. There are several different window types. The kitchen wing, 2-story section, and main block have 9/9, 6/6, and 4/4 double-hung wood, and 9- and 12-light wood casements. The west wing has 6/6 double-hung wood and 4-light casements, and the hyphen has 9/9 double-hung wood. The majority of windows have wood shutters.

The south, or front elevation of the main block has a centered wood door on the first story and a wood door in the third bay of the second story. The full-width porch has an asphalt shingle roof and is supported by square wood posts. The main block projects beyond the 2-story section, and there is a 1-story shed roof addition located in the ell. The fenestration pattern of the house is asymmetrical. The kitchen wing, shed roof addition and hyphen each have one window, the 2-story section has a window on the first and second stories, the main block has two windows on both stories, and the west wing has a second story window. The west wing also has a centered 15-light wood door with a 3-light transom.

The east and west elevations of the house are partially concealed by the various additions. The second story of the 2-story section and west wing are visible, as is the north half and gable end of the main block. The visible parts of the sections have various types of windows, and there are windows in the gable end of the main block.

The south elevation of the house has an exposed basement. The main block has a full-width, 2-story integrated porch which has been enclosed with a series of fixed and casement windows. The porch has centered wood doors on the first story, and it is accessed from the main block of the house by two doors on each story. The west wing has a full-width, 1-story screened porch with a door and steps on the west elevation. The siding and fenestration patterns of the other sections are similar to the north elevation.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Pleasant Hill

SURVEY NO.: CH-78 (~~PAOS B14~~)

ADDRESS: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

7. Description (Continued)

There are five buildings associated with this property. The first building is a pool house with a wood shingle, gable roof. Constructed circa 1995, the poolhouse is of wood-frame construction with brick veneer and wood clapboard siding. The poolhouse is located south of the house.

The second building is a garage with a corrugated metal, front-gable roof. Constructed circa 1995, the garage is of wood-frame construction and it is located near the northwest corner of the west wing.

The third building is a barn with a standing seam metal, gable roof. Constructed circa 1900 and moved to the site circa 1980, the barn is of wood-frame construction and is located approximately 400 meters (1320 feet) north of the house on a recently purchased adjacent parcel.

The fourth building is a garage with an asphalt shingle, front-gambrel roof. Constructed circa 1930, the garage is of wood-frame construction and is located adjacent to the barn.

The property is located at the end of a gravel drive approximately 0.8 kilometers (0.5 miles) south of Pomfret Road. The house is located on a level site and is surrounded on three sides by heavily wooded, steeply sloped ravine. There are adjacent farms across the ravine to the east and west. The property's setting is a rural area of farms, woods, and residences.

8. Significance

Survey No.: CH-78 ~~(PACS B14)~~

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1761, circa 1840

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B xC ___D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G
Level of Significance: ___national ___state x local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Pleasant Hill was originally situated on 80.94 hectares (200 acres) of "Green's Inheritance" purchased by John Spalding in 1713 and inherited by his grandson, Basil Spalding. According to the records of the Charles County Tax Assessor, a house was constructed on the land in 1761, when Basil Spalding built Pleasant Hill. Pleasant Hill appears on the Maryland Geological Survey's 40 Map of Eastern Maryland with 1860 Additions. The house and 70.82 hectares (175 acres) remained in the Spalding family until 1911 when they were sold to Julia Sinclair. In 1919 Julia and John Sinclair sold the property to Jeremiah Mudd. The property remained in the Mudd family until 1991 when the current owners, Donald and Elizabeth Rice, acquired the house and its associated 1.83 hectare (4.54 acre) parcel. In 1996, an adjacent parcel historically associated with the house was purchased, increasing the size of the property to approximately 11.5 hectares (28.5 acres).

Pleasant Hill is a Tidewater house. The Tidewater architectural type was common in the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay area during the eighteenth century. The Tidewater house form was derived from vernacular English building traditions of the 16th and 17th centuries and were commonly of wood-frame construction with a hall-and-parlor plan. Most were 1½-stories with gable or gambrel roofs and exterior chimneys. Very few early houses were larger than one or two rooms, and fewer were of masonry construction (Upton, 1982: 45; Lavoie, 1993: 22). As the planter class in the region became more established, room sizes increased and houses were built with kitchens and lodging rooms, used by servants. As the form evolved, Tidewater houses increased in size, and domestic functions became separate from the main house as outbuildings were built. Although the late eighteenth century witnessed a gradual change in architectural styles as the region socially and economically matured, Tidewater-type houses continued to be built into the early nineteenth century (Lavoie, 1993: 22).

Pleasant Hill is located in Charles County, in southern Maryland. The Native American inhabitants of southern Maryland from the Piscataway and Potomac nations were joined by European settlers beginning in 1634 with the establishment of St. Mary's City by Leonard Calvert. Successive waves of colonists took up tracts of land further inland from the Chesapeake Bay along the Patuxent and Potomac rivers and their tributaries. Charles County was formed in 1658 and Prince George's County was established in 1696. Settlement was confined to inland areas until road clearing began in the mid-eighteenth century as a result of the establishment of port towns and Maryland's rising population. Tobacco cultivation dominated the economic and social life of both Charles and Prince George's counties until the mid-nineteenth century when soil exhaustion necessitated agricultural diversification. The introduction of rail lines in 1873 linked Prince

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

SOURCE NAME: Pleasant Hill

SURVEY NO.: CH-78 (PAGE B14)

ADDRESS: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

8. Significance (Continued)

George's and Charles counties with the surrounding area, encouraging trade and settlement. While the suburbanization of Prince George's and Charles counties was ensured by the widespread availability of the automobile in the mid-twentieth century, these southern Maryland counties have also retained their rural and agricultural character.

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

Pleasant Hill, constructed in 1761 and enlarged in the 1840s, was previously inventoried by the Maryland Historical Trust in 1980. A field view was performed by personnel from the Maryland Historical Trust in the summer of 1996, and it was concluded that Pleasant Hill is a significant property. The property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an outstanding example of a Tidewater house. The structure retains integrity of form and materials, especially the intact Flemish-bond brick of the original structure. The setting of the house, surrounded by a wooded ravine, retains its historical associations. The west wing and hyphen, constructed in 1992 are of an architectural style sympathetic to the original design, and the rear porch alteration does not significantly detract from the architectural integrity of the house. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Finally, based upon the date of construction and the property type, there is a likelihood that an archaeological component could exist on the property. However, as no archaeological investigation has been conducted, the eligibility of the property under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended X Eligibility Not Recommended

Comments: Criterion C. Nomination has been approved by review board 6/5/1997.

Reviewer, OPS: Suzanne Pickens

Date: 07/21/1997

Reviewer, NR Program: B. Kuntz

Date: 4/4/01

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Pleasant Hill

SURVEY NO.: CH-78 (PACS B14)

ADDRESS: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

8. Significance (Continued)

George's and Charles counties with the surrounding area, encouraging trade and settlement. While the suburbanization of Prince George's and Charles counties was ensured by the widespread availability of the automobile in the mid-twentieth century, these southern Maryland counties have also retained their rural and agricultural character.

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

Pleasant Hill, constructed in 1761 and enlarged in the 1840s, was previously inventoried by the Maryland Historical Trust in 1980. A field view was performed by personnel from the Maryland Historical Trust in the summer of 1996, and it was concluded that Pleasant Hill is a significant property. The property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an outstanding example of a Tidewater house. The structure retains integrity of form and materials, especially the intact Flemish-bond brick of the original structure. The setting of the house, surrounded by a wooded ravine, retains its historical associations. The west wing and hyphen, constructed in 1992 are of an architectural style sympathetic to the original design, and the rear porch alteration does not significantly detract from the architectural integrity of the house. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Finally, based upon the date of construction and the property type, there is a likelihood that an archaeological component could exist on the property. However, as no archaeological investigation has been conducted, the eligibility of the property under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended *XX*

Eligibility Not Recommended

Comments: *NEED ALL PHOTOS TO BE SENT*

⊗ Listed in NR 12 Dec. 1997

Reviewer, OPS: *[Signature]* Date: *10/18/99*

Reviewer, NR Program: *[Signature]* Date: *10/19/99*

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No.: CH-78 (PAGE B14)

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 11.5 hectares (28.5 acres)

Quadrangle name La Plata, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall/Ryan McKay

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date September 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Pleasant Hill

SURVEY NO.: CH-78 ~~(PAOS-B14)~~

ADDRESS: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Retired Teachers Association. A Legacy: One- and Two-Room Schools in Charles County. La Plata: Dick Wildes Publishing Company, 1984.

Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown, and Paul Dennis Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

Lavoie, Catherine C. "Architecture: From Tidewater to Modern." Landmarks of Prince George's County. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993.

Martenet, Simon J. Martenet's Map of Maryland, Atlas Edition. Baltimore, 1866.

Maryland Geological Survey. [1840] Map of Eastern Maryland with 1860 Additions. Copy on file at Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD.

Rivoire, J. Richard. Homeplaces, Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata: Southern Maryland Studies Center, 1990.

Wearmouth, John M. Charles County Railroad. An unpublished paper on deposit at the Prince George's County Historical Society. August 1984.

Ibid. La Plata, Maryland, 1888-1988, 100 Years, The Heart of Charles County. La Plata: Town of La Plata, 1988.

Upton, Dell. "The Origins of Chesapeake Architecture." 3 Centuries of Maryland Architecture: A Selection of Presentations made at the 11th Annual Conference of the Maryland Historical Trust. Crownsville, Maryland, 1982.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Pleasant Hill

SURVEY NO.: CH-78 (~~PACS B14~~)

ADDRESS: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Verbal boundary description and justification:

The National Register boundaries of Pleasant Hill follow the current property lines of 9205 Marshall Corner Road (Charles County Tax Map 23, Parcel 418 and Parcel 276). This approximately 11.5 hectare (28.5 acre) parcel is bounded on the north by Marshall Corner Road and adjacent tax parcels, and on the south, west and east by adjacent tax parcels. The boundary includes the house, and non-contributing barn, garages and poolhouse. According to deed research, the property was originally part of a 80.94 hectare (200 acres) parcel purchased by John Spalding in 1713.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

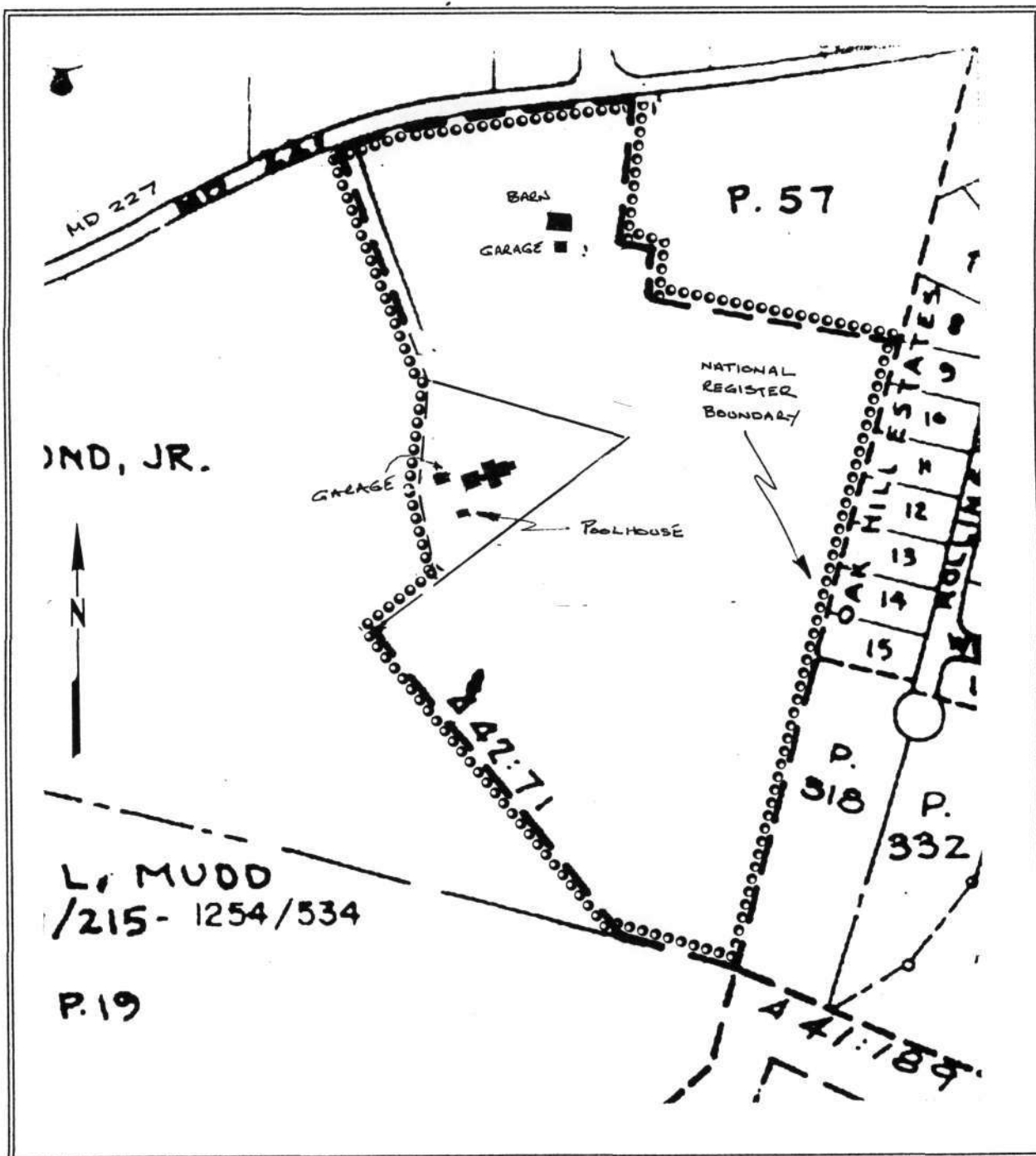
RESOURCE NAME: Pleasant Hill

SURVEY NO.: CH-78 (PAGE B14)

ADDRESS: 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret vicinity, Charles County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Pleasant Hill CH-78 (~~PACS B14~~)
9205 Marshall Corner Road, vicinity of Pomfret, Charles County

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture; Agriculture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Buildings; Private Ownership; Public Acquisition - Not
applicable; Occupied; Not accessible; Private Residence

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Agriculture

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

U.S. 301 South Corridor

Transportation Study

Survey # B44, CH-78

Property Name Pleasant Hill

Town/County Pomfret vicinity/Charles Co.

Quadrangle La Plata





1. CH-78
2. Pleasant Hill Charles County, MD
3. Ryan McKay, 9/96
4. P.A.C. Spero + Co 410 W Chesapeake Ave.
#412 Baltimore MD 21204
5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
North elevation of house South view
6. 1 of 16



1 CH-78

2 Pleasant Hill Charles County, MD

3 Bryan McKay, 9/96

4 P.A.C. Spero and Company 40. West
Chesapeake Ave, #412, Baltimore, MD 21204

5 9205 Marshall Corner Road North
elevation of Main house Southwest view

6 2 of 16



1. CH-78

2. Piece # 41 11 Charles County, MD

3. Ryan McKay, 9196

4. PAC Spens & Company, 40 11

Chesapeake Ave, #42, Baltimore MD 21204

5. 9205 - Marshall Corner Road,
East elevation of House, South west

6. view

3 of 16



1. CH-78
2. Pleasant Hill Charles County, MD
3. Ryan McKay. 1/96
4. P.A.C. Space & Company, 410 W
Chesapeake Ave #412 Baltimore, MD 21204
5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
Partial South elevation of House
North View
6. 4 of 16



1. CH-12

2 pr. ... Charles County

3. Ryan McKay, 9/96

4 P.A.C. Specimen #45 Ht Wt
Chesapeake Ave #45 Baltimore MD 21204

5. 9205 Marshall Corner Rd
partial south elevation North west view

6. S of 16



1. CH-78
2. Pleasant Hill, Charles County, MD
3. Repr. McKay 1 to 10
4. P.A. C. Spent Co 40 W. Chesapeake Ave #412, Baltimore MD 21204
5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
partial South elevation of House with
pool house North view



1 CH-78

2 Pleasant Hill, Charles County, MD

3 Bryan McKay, 9/96

4 P.A.C. Spero and Company, 40 W
Chesapeake Ave., #412 Baltimore, MD 21204

5 9205 Marshall Corner Road
South elevation of Main house, North
View

6 7 of 16



1. CH-28
2. PLEASANT - N 1, Charles County, MD
3. Ryan McLean Ave
4. P.A.C. Sperry H. R. (Kempstead)
Ave., 412 - J. W. S. A. MD 21767
5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
Partial West elevation Northeast view
6. 8 of 16



1. C-1-78

2. Pleasant Hill Charles County, MD

3. Ryan McKay 9/96

4. P.A.C. Spers & Co 2010 Chesapeake Ave
#412 Solomons, MD 21204

5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
garage North view South elevation

6. 9 of 16



1. CH-78
2. Pleasure Hill Charles County, MD
3. Ryan Road
4. P.A.C. Sperry & Company, 40. W. Chesapeake Ave., Ste 412, Baltimore
5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
North elevation of Garage South
View
6. 10 of 16



- 1 CH-78
- 2 Pleasant Hill Charles County, MD
- 3 Bryan McKay, 9/96
- 4 P.A.C Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, #412 Baltimore, MD 21204
- 5 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Partial west elevation of House, Southeast view
- 6 11 of 16



1. CH. 7-2

2. PLEZ-001-4, Charles County, MD

3. Ryan McKay, 9/9/00

4. P.A.C. 3 per cent compound 40.21, 1.25 per cent
Ave, 310412, Baltimore, MD 21004

5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road, Pental
West elevation of house, Southeast
6. View

6. 12 of 16



1. CH-78
 2. Pleasant Hill, Charles County, MD
 3. Ryan McBride 4/96
 4. P.A.C. Service Company, 40. W. Chesapeake Ave., Ste. 400, Baltimore MD 21211
 5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road
 6. North elevation of House South view
- 6 13 of 16



- 1 CH-78
- 2 Pleasant Hill, Charles County, MD
- 3 Bryan McKay, 9/96
- 4 P.A.C. Spero and Company, 40 West
Chesapeake Ave, #412 Baltimore, MD 21204.
- 5 9205 Marshall Corner Road
North elevation of Main House Southwest
view
- 6 14 of 16



- 1 C.H.-78
- 2 Pleasant Hill, Charles County, MD
- 3 Bryan McKay, 9/96
- 4 P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, #412 Baltimore, MD 21204
- 5 9205 Marshall Corner Road, North elevation of Main House Southeast view
- 6 15 of 16



1. (unclear)
2. Pleasant Hill Charles County MD
3. Rydman & Co
4. P.A.G. Spero & Company, 401 W. Chesapeake Ave, St. 412, Baltimore Md 21204
5. 9205 Marshall Corner Road, barn and garage Southeast view
6. 16 of 16

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Pleasant Hill

other names/site number CH-78

=====

2. Location

=====

street 9205 Marshall's Corner Road

not for publication n/a city or town Pomfret vicinity x

state Maryland code MD county Charles code 017 zip code 20675

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



Signature of certifying official

10-21-97

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register _____
_____ See continuation sheet.
_____ determined eligible for the _____
National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
_____ determined not eligible for the _____
National Register
_____ removed from the National Register _____
_____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing n/a

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=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Southern Maryland house type

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

roof WOOD/shingle

walls WOOD/weatherboard

other BRICK (chimneys)

WOOD (porch)

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets.)

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Applicable National Register Criteria

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property approximately 18 acres

USGS quadrangle La Plata, MD

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>18</u>	<u>326230</u>	<u>4272980</u>	D	<u>18</u>	<u>326240 4272350</u>
B	<u>18</u>	<u>326460</u>	<u>4273060</u>	E	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u>18</u>	<u>326530</u>	<u>4272850</u>			

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (see continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (see continuation sheet.)

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Betty Bird, Architectural Historian

organization Betty Bird & Associates date December 1996

street & number 2607 24th St., N. W., Suite 3 telephone (202) 588-9033

city or town Washington state DC zip code 20008

Period of Significance ca. 1760-1848

Significant Dates ca. 1760; ca. 1808; ca. 1848

Significant Person n/a

Cultural Affiliation n/a

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

— preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

_____ previously listed in the National Register

_____ previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

x State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

 Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

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Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====

Property Owner

=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state ____ zip code ____

=====

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Description Summary:

Pleasant Hill is a 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 story, frame and brick dwelling constructed in three phases from 1760 to 1848. Pleasant Hill well illustrates characteristic pattern of evolution of vernacular domestic architecture in Charles County from small one and two room 18th century dwellings into the larger houses that survive today. The basement and first floor of the frame main block of the house were constructed around 1760 (Period I). The brick kitchen wing to the west and the first floor of the center section were constructed prior to 1828 (Period II). Pleasant Hill did not assume its present form until the mid-19th century when second stories were added to the main block and center sections of the house (Period III). Characteristic southern Maryland porches were also added during the Period III building campaign.

The house, which has tripartite horizontal massing, displays features typical of southern Maryland domestic architecture of the period. Pleasant Hill incorporates distinctive regional features like prominent exterior end chimneys, chimney pents, contrasting materials, porches, and telescoped massing. The house, which retains the small scale associated with historic architecture in Charles County, is sited above Port Tobacco Creek and retains its historic setting of fields and woodland. While Pleasant Hill has been altered over time, its evolution illustrates a distinctive regional pattern of adaptation common in surviving domestic architecture of the 18th and 19th century in southern Maryland. Late 20th century alterations to the house have left its distinct form, materials, and spatial character visible and intact. There are two other structures on the property in addition to the house. These structures include a 1995 pool house and garage. These 20th century structures all postdate the period of significance of the house and do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

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General Description

Pleasant Hill is a 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 story brick and frame house of compound form situated on an 18-acre tract of open fields and woods. The house is sited at the top of a ridge above the wooded ravine sloping down to Port Tobacco Creek. Pleasant Hill, which was constructed in three phases, exhibits the telescoped massing often found in surviving 18th and early 19th century houses in southern Maryland. The house, which faces north, is composed of three primary historic elements: the main block, center section, and east section. A 1992 frame hyphen connects the historic section of the house with a kitchen wing, also constructed in 1992. Other buildings on the property include a frame pool house and pergola and a gable-fronted board and batten garage with a tin roof constructed in 1995.

The 2-1/2 story main block of the house is the most prominent element of the composition. The frame structure, which rests on a raised basement, has brick end chimneys rising above a gabled roof. A frame pent projects out from the north side of the east wall of the main block. The gable of the main block is canted over full height porches on the north and south sides of the house. (An earlier porch at the rear of the house was demolished in the 1920s. The present south porch dates to 1992. The south facade of the main block is intact within the glazed porch.) Brick piers support the front (north) porch, which has a tongue and groove heart pine floor and wide sills. The porch is framed with square wood piers and has simple wood replacement rails. The front porch exhibits an unusual entablature similar to detailing found on the front (north) facades of the center and eastern section. Blocks of wood have been fastened to the fascia below the roof line. The blocks are fastened above the posts and are centered between the posts. This detail may be a local interpretation of modillion blocks.

The original asymmetrical pattern of fenestration and openings of the main block remains intact. Window and door openings on the front facade

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are irregularly spaced and have simple architrave molding. The front door is placed slightly to the west of center, reflecting the hall-parlor plan found in the main block. (See attached floor plans.) On the first floor there are single windows with 9-over-9 sash at either end of the facade. Some of the glazing in the first floor windows dates to the mid-19th century. "John W. Carroll" and "F. W. Carroll 1833" are scratched in a pane on the north side of the first floor. "John Spalding" is scratched in a pane on the south side. The openings on the second floor of the north facade do not line up with those on the first floor. There are two windows located at the east end of the second floor of the north facade. The door to the second floor porch is located on the west end of the second floor. This upper part of the door is detailed to resemble the window openings on the second floor.

The one story frame chimney pent to the east of the main block of the house has a shed roof that slopes to the east. The pent rests on a brick foundation detailed in Flemish bond. In a pattern exhibited in the main block, the front (north) wall of the pent is clad in beaded weatherboard; plain weatherboards are used on the secondary facade to the east. Each facade has a single window opening. The fascia is beaded.

Changes in form and materials of the main block show that the second floor was added at a later date. (The addition of the second floor is referred to as Period III construction.) The first floor of the north side of the house is framed with random width, beaded weatherboards; the second floor on the north is lath and plaster. Plain weatherboards are used on the secondary facades on the east and west. The initials "LJS" have been carved four times in the weatherboards on the north side of the chimney on the west side of the main block. Differences in configuration and brickwork in the chimneys are typical of chimneys whose height has been raised. The west chimney is detailed in Flemish bond with glazed headers to the level of its lowest shoulder, where common bond is used. The base of the east chimney, visible within the middle section of the house, is also detailed in Flemish bond with glazed headers.

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Historic photographs of the house dating to ca. 1915 also provide evidence of how the appearance of the main block and chimney pent have been altered over time. The 1915 photographs depict a frame addition to the north of the pent. This addition does not have a brick foundation and appears to have settled to the north in the 1915 photograph. The eastern 1/6 of the first floor of the north porch is also framed in. This enclosure appears distinct from the addition to the pent. Both additions were gone by the 1980s. In the ca. 1915 photograph, there is an opening in the foundation of the pent in line with the window on the east facade. The front porch has the same configuration as it presently does. The second floor of the front porch has a paneled rail. In the 1915 photograph the rear porch has no visible rails on the west or at the west end of its south facade. The rear porch was removed in the 1920s. By the mid-1980s the first floor of the front porch on the north had been screened. The rails depicted in the 1915 photograph were missing. The paneled rail at the second floor was removed in the 1990s restoration. The panels, which were less than 3 ft. high and which did not appear to pre-date the 1890s, were stored and replaced by the present simple square rails. The present rails duplicate the appearance of the first floor rails shown in the 1915 photograph.

The center section of the house is attached to the south side of the east wall of the main block behind the chimney pent. The first floor of the section is Period II construction and probably pre-dates 1810. The center section of the house, which is roughly square in plan, is built over a crawl space and has a gable roof. This section of the house has no visible foundation, although there is a brick watertable east of the door on the south facade. Like the main block of the house, the physical fabric of the center section also shows that the second floor was added. The second floor is referred to as Period III construction and probably dates to around 1840. The garret of the center section has construction details similar to the garret of the main block. Both sections have fir floors in the garrets and fir treads in the stairs leading to the garrets.

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Additionally, the window trim in the second floor of the center section is identical to that found in the main block.

The first floor of the center section is detailed in Flemish bond with glazed headers. (The former west exterior wall, now visible within the interior of the rear porch, is also detailed in Flemish bond.) The north and south walls of the second floor are sheathed in weatherboards. The east wall of the second floor is brick. The outline of a lower roof line is visible on the east wall. The gable is frame. There are doors and single windows on both the north and south facades. Doors are located on the east end of the center section. There is also a window centered within the gable. No chimneys serve the center section of the house. The ca. 1915 historic photographs show that the exterior section of the center section has been little changed.

The east section of the house is a 1-1/2 story brick structure with a gable roof and an interior end chimney on the east. The east section rests on a partial brick watertable topped by a course of headers. The exterior is detailed in Flemish bond with glazed headers. In the 1980s, there was a door in the west end of the south wall. (See attached floor plans from *Homeplaces*.) This opening was bricked in when the house was restored in 1992. There is a single window opening at the center of the north facade, a small window cut into the west end of the south facade, and two small window openings to either side of the chimney within the gable. The beaded fascia of the east section of the house exhibits a treatment similar to that displayed in the center section. Unlike the center section, there is a bolection frieze pulled in from the corners of the building below the fascia. The ca. 1915 photograph shows that the eastern section of the house retains much of its earlier appearance. The photograph suggests that the east section of the building was whitewashed. Evidence of the whitewash is still present on the upper portion of the north facade.

There is a 1992 addition attached to the house to the west. In keeping with the additive pattern of southern Maryland architecture, a one-

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story frame hyphen is attached to the main block of the house south of the chimney. This hyphen joins the main block of the house with a recent 2-1/2 story frame kitchen wing. The kitchen wing is topped by a gable roof and is faced with brick on the north side of the first floor.

The interior of Pleasant Hill retains much of its earlier floor plan and finishes. While the house has been altered over the years, there appear to have been few structural changes and only minor replacement of finishes. The most recent alterations to the house prior to the 1992 restoration took place in the mid-1980s at the time J. Richard Rivoire recorded the house. These changes were apparently cosmetic and easily reversed. The present owners of the house, Donald Rice and Elizabeth St. John Loker, restored the house saving as much of the 18th and 19th century fabric and finishes as possible and relocating modern facilities like the kitchen and utility systems to a new addition west of the house. Donald Rice did much of the interior work himself to insure that original fabric was retained.

The first floor of the main block of the house (Period I) has a hall parlor plan with an encased dog-leg stair located east of the front entry.

The second floor of the main block (Period III) has a center hall plan. The Period I construction of the earliest section of Pleasant Hill, the basement and first floor of the main block, consists of nogging between posts.¹ The basement consists of unfinished log joists utilizing mortise and tenon joints. Joints are hewn. Basement walls are exposed brick. The foundation of the pent visible within the basement below the main block of the house suggests that the pent was built close to the time of the construction of the main block. The sills of basement windows, which have been blocked with brick and obscured by the porches for over a century, are at ground level.

¹This construction was visible when the house was being restored and can be seen in a closet space under the stair and in construction photographs.

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The first floor of the house has wide board floors running in an east/west direction. The cherry ceiling beams are beaded with a rubbed finish.² Shadows of lath marks suggest that a later ceiling, subsequently removed, was applied over split lath. Baseboard molding, which has a beaded profile, varies from 5/8 in. thickness to 1-1/4 in. thickness. The recent chair rail is of the same height and width of an earlier chair rail that could be seen as a shadow on the bricks during the 1993 restoration of the house. A fragment of the rail remaining between the window casing and the window sill was used as evidence for the present molding profile. There is no cornice in either room. The unusual mantel in the west room displays fluted pilasters supporting a deep, ridged shelf. One of the panes of glass in this room is inscribed, "John W. Carroll" and what appears to be "F.W. Carroll 1833." A board-and-batten door with original hinges leads to the stair. The east room of the main block exhibits similar finish to that found on the west. The underside of the stair visible in the east room is framed in pine between cherry posts.

The mantel in the east room of the main block consists of piers supporting a plain frieze topped by a simple shelf. Similar mantels are found in the second floor chambers in the main block. A board-and-batten door to the north side of the chimney opens into the pent; an opening to the south leads down to the center section. There are two chambers to either side of a center hall on the second floor. The only access to the center section of the house from the second floor of the main block is through the rear porch. The mantels on the second floor resemble the mantels in the east room of the main block. The stair has a simple rail and baluster.

The finish of the interior of the center section of the house is plainer than that of the main block. The face of the east chimney of the

²No saw marks could be discerned on this feature.

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main block is visible within the center room; the stair to the second floor is located in the southwest corner. An opening at the center of the east wall leads into the east section of the house. The encased stair leading to the second floor of this section is framed in pine between cherry posts; ceiling beams are oak. The stair opens directly into the single chamber on the second floor.

The eastern half of the east section of the house was in severely deteriorated condition prior to the 1990s restoration.³ Much of the deteriorated work had to be reworked at that time. Prior to the restoration, the east section had a brick floor under a concrete slab and an open hearth. There was a closet with shelves to the north of the hearth and a ladder leading to a loft on the south. The hearth, closet, and ladder were retained as part of the 1990s restoration. Because the loft floor boards were rotted, they were removed at the time of the restoration to create the present full-height space that includes the former loft. Noteworthy remaining original features include the oak ceiling beams, which run north/south, shutters, and some shelves in the closet.

Although Pleasant Hill has changed over time, the building still retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. Pleasant Hill's location on a ridge above the wooded ravine of Port Tobacco Creek in a setting of fields and woodlands maintains the rural feeling and association of the house's historic setting. Changes to the house in the early 1990s retain its distinctive additive massing. The new addition is west of the building, setback from the historic structure.

The small, one-story hyphen that connects the addition to Pleasant Hill has been attached to a secondary facade and recessed behind the chimney of the main block. The prominent porch on the north facade remains. The rear porch, removed in the 1920s, has been replaced by a glazed porch that

³The previous owner recalls that the east section was severely deteriorated in the 1930s.

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connects the historic section of the house with the new addition. The south facade of the house remains unchanged within this new, glazed porch.

The access provided by the rear porch has made it possible to retain the original interior spatial configuration within Pleasant Hill since it connects the older section of the house with a new kitchen and facilities that adapt the house to present day use. Because the addition accommodates the present day functions, the historic portion of Pleasant Hill retains much of its distinctive spatial configuration and floor plan.

While materials have been replaced over time, Pleasant Hill still retains a significant amount of earlier fabric exhibiting skilled workmanship and the changes in workmanship that trace the evolution of the house. On the exterior the house retains its Flemish bond walls and chimneys, beaded weatherboard, glazing elements, and distinctive cornice treatment on the east and center sections. On the interior, the house retains its wide floor boards, timber framing, beaded cherry beams, mantels, doors, and enclosed stairs.

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Significance Summary

Pleasant Hill, constructed in three stages between 1760 and 1848, is a good example of domestic architecture of the period in Charles County. The house, which retains its rural setting, displays features characteristic of late 18th and early 19th century architecture in southern Maryland. The size and plan of the earliest portion of the building, the telescoped massing, the combination of brick and weatherboard, and the 19th century piazzas offer a catalogue of traditional Charles County building practice.

Pleasant Hill meets National Register Criterion C as an excellent illustration of the evolution of domestic architecture in Charles County, Maryland during this period. The restoration of the building in the 1990s, which encompassed the addition of a kitchen wing, does not impair the overall integrity of the resource.

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HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Southern Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification, 1680-1815

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870

Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Known Design Source:

none

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RESOURCE HISTORY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT

Pleasant Hill was constructed and expanded by the Spalding family, a prominent Charles County family who owned the property from 1713 to 1911.⁴ In 1713 John Spalding purchased 200 acres of the 2400 acre land patent entitled "Green's Inheritance." Physical evidence and the 1783 tax assessment suggests that John Spalding's grandson, Basil Spalding, constructed the basement and first floor of the main block, the oldest portion of the house (Period I), around 1760. The 1783 tax assessment for this 200 acre parcel states that the property was improved by a "middling good dwelling," three "indifferent outbuildings," and a tobacco house.⁵ In *Homeplaces: Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County Maryland*, J. Richard Rivoire argues convincingly that 18th century upper end housing in the county typically consisted of small one-story buildings.⁶ The size and materials of the first floor of the main block combined with its site above Port Tobacco Creek on a low ridge are consistent with the structure described in the 1783 assessment.

Basil Spalding died in 1792 and his wife Catherine died prior to 1797. In accordance with Basil Spalding's will, after Catherine's death his property was divided among his three sons. Basil Spalding, Jr. received

⁴J. Richard Rivoire, *Homeplaces: Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County, Maryland*, pp. 128-133.

⁵Rivoire, p. 128 and 130. Although the eastern section of the house, which was probably built as a kitchen wing, could date to this period of construction, it is unlikely that an assessor would describe a Flemish bond brick building as an "indifferent" outbuilding.

⁶Rivoire, pp. 11-12. Coordinating his work with ongoing scholarship devoted to the Chesapeake region, Rivoire has conducted an extensive study of southern Maryland architecture. His analysis of information from the 1783 and 1798 tax assessments permits Rivoire to trace how surviving architecture relates to the much larger body of dwellings that do not survive.

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the house and 150 acres. At the time of the 1798 assessment, the house and four outbuildings were still standing and received an assessment of \$400.

Basil Spalding, Jr., a successful farmer and merchant, acquired substantial property during his lifetime, including buildings in Port Tobacco. While his mercantile activity was centered in Port Tobacco, he continued to live at Pleasant Hill. The workmanship and design characteristics of the first floor of the center section and the eastern section of the house, particularly the Flemish bond brick, suggest that Basil Spalding, Jr. constructed this portion of the house (Period II) prior to his death in 1828.⁷ Because these characteristic features show little influence of building tradition beyond southern Maryland, it is likely that they were constructed before 1810, the date that Rivoire gives for widespread evidence of outside influence in the county.⁸ The date of ca. 1808 has been adopted for the Period II construction because this date is the midpoint of Basil Spalding, Jr.'s occupancy. Because the center section has no chimney, Spalding may have used this part of the house as his store. While the Flemish bond incorporated within the east section might argue against original construction as a kitchen, Flemish bond was used in a late 18th century kitchen associated with Clifton in Charles County.⁹

⁷Rivoire, p. 130. Rivoire implies that the 1st floor of the center section and the eastern kitchen section were constructed as a unit. The 1990s restoration, however, revealed that these two sections have different floor levels. The center section is constructed over a crawl space; there is no cellar under the eastern kitchen section. Further, there appears to be evidence of a seam on the south where these sections adjoin each other, although this seam could also relate to reworked openings.

⁸Rivoire, p. 21.

⁹Rivoire, p. 77.

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In 1838, Basil Spalding, Jr.'s sons, John Spalding and Basil Richard Spalding, divided their father's real property between them. John Spalding took Pleasant Hill and its lands and his brother, Basil R. Spalding, acquired the lots in Port Tobacco. Basil R. also received Stag Hall in this partition of the estate. While both brothers were merchants, Basil R. Spalding lived in Baltimore. John Spalding confined his activities to Pleasant Hill where he is believed to have operated a store and post office from his Pleasant Hill property. It is likely that John Spalding constructed the second floor of the main block of the house and raised the roof above the center section (Period III).¹⁰ Because the roofs of the front and rear porches are integral to the second floor of the main block, the porches also date to the period when the second floor was constructed.

Since these changes probably took place shortly after John Spalding received the house, a date of 1840 has been assigned to this work. At the time of John Spalding's death in 1848, his store merchandise (consisting primarily of dry goods), household furnishings, farming equipment, livestock, crops, and 19 slaves were valued at slightly over \$9,000.

The house then passed to John's son Basil W. Spalding who lived in the house until 1911 when the property was sold to John F. Sinclair. In 1919 the property was transferred to Jeremiah T. Mudd. The property remained in the Mudd family until 1992.¹¹ Most of the changes made to the house during this time appear to have been incremental and primarily cosmetic. A photograph taken about 1915 during the Sinclair occupancy, shows changes to the north end of the pent and the east end of the porch and records the deterioration of the rear porch. In the mid-1980s, R. J. Mudd, Jr. remodeled the interior, removing architrave molding and storing mantels in the basement.

In 1992 Donald Rice and Elizabeth St. John Loker acquired the property with the intent of restoring the house to its earlier appearance. Rice and

¹⁰Rivoire, p. 130.

¹¹Abstract of Title, Collection of Donald Rice.

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Loker collected antiques and had previously restored and occupied Lawton House in Falls Church, Virginia. The couple hired Washington, D.C. architect Thomas Shiner to design an addition that would permit them to restore the house without compromising its interior to accommodate a modern kitchen and plumbing. Rice himself did the restoration work on the interior fabric of Pleasant Hill.

The evolution of the form of the house is typical of traditional building practice in Charles County. The rural character of Charles County stems from its dependence on an agrarian economy dominated first by tobacco and later by grain. Settlement moved inland from navigable waterways. There was little need for towns since self-sufficient plantations could be supplied from larger cities accessible by water.¹² The pattern for building practice that developed in Charles County and other parts of southern Maryland was one in which buildings were small and often impermanent. In contrast with other parts of the Chesapeake region, "furnishings rather than houses signified wealth and social stature."¹³ Consequently, dwellings constructed during the 18th and early 19th century for wealthy individuals were small and unpretentious. Because of the relative isolation of this rural area, there is a provincial and pervasively local character to much of its 18th and early 19th century architecture, a character reflected in the appearance of Pleasant Hill. Local building preferences like chimney pents, contrasting materials, prominent chimney stacks, and the telescopic pattern of horizontal additions prevailed over current fashions. Even when Charles County became less isolated after 1810, displays of current architectural style were typically confined to trim and finish rather than plan, form, and massing. Charles County continued to remain somewhat isolated both economically and politically throughout the 19th and early 20th century. There was little

¹²Inventory, p. 57.

¹³Rivoire, p. 11.

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CH-78
Pleasant Hill
Charles County, MD

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significant building activity in the county until after the first World War.¹⁴

Pleasant Hill is a good example of how Charles County's historic dwellings incorporate regional building patterns that are strongly tied to the area's history as an isolated, rural area. The survival of the oldest portion of the house and the visible evidence of the changes to the building over time show how the area's economy and cultural biases resulted in the reuse and incremental adaptation of building stock. The Period I first floor, chimneys, chimney pent, basement framing, and floor plan of the main block of the house provide a good example of the size, scale, and lack of architectural pretension found in dwellings constructed by prosperous individuals in the county in the latter half of the 18th century. In 1783, the main block of Pleasant Hill, like Dearbought, Spye Park, and Laurel Branch, were dwellings that the assessor regarded as "middling" or "middling good."¹⁵ The hall-parlor plan of the main block with its enclosed stair is characteristic of the retention of older building typologies in this rural county. The juxtaposition of details like Flemish bond brick with glazed headers, beaded weatherboard, and beaded cherry ceiling beams with the modest size and scale of the Period I dwelling is particularly revealing. The horizontal, telescoped addition to the east, which dates to the early 19th century, displays a characteristic regional pattern in its massing and combination of materials. Charles County houses of varying size and date and floor plan typology incorporate this pattern of adaptation. Sarum, LaGrange, Oak Hill, Mt Republican, Cedar Grove, Locust Grove (demolished), Johnsontown, and Hard Bargain all

¹⁴Rivoire, p. 28.

¹⁵Rivoire, pp. 15-16.

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Section 8 Page 24

CH-78
Pleasant Hill
Charles County, MD

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display the linear horizontality of telescoped massing.¹⁶ The addition of the second floor to the main block to the center section in the mid-19th century (Period III) illustrates the persistence of the telescopic massing. The Period III building campaign also incorporates a feature characteristic of 19th century Charles County dwellings, full height porches or piazzas.

Pleasant Hill retains sufficient integrity to convey characteristic southern Maryland form and Charles County building practice. Its setting of fields and wooded ravine provide an important historic and visual context for the evolution and survival of the dwelling. While the loss of the rear porch in the early 20th century is unfortunate, the weatherboards forming the gable and canted roof covering that porch are still intact, showing how the porches were an integral part of the second floor addition in the mid-19th century. The 1992 addition is set back from the west end of the house, maintaining the distinctive massing of the eastern part of Pleasant Hill. The 1990s restoration of the house restored the house's earlier floor plan and its surviving historic fabric dating to the period of significance enhancing the historic feeling and associations of the house.

¹⁶Rivoire well illustrates this pattern throughout Homeplaces.

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GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries are indicated by the solid line on the attached map, labeled National Register Boundaries.

Boundary Justification: The boundary has been drawn to encompass the historic rural visual setting associated with the house. The northern edge of this irregularly shaped property adjoins Maryland Route 227; the western edge is the western boundary of the land under current ownership. The eastern edge of the National Register boundary extends in a northeasterly direction that follows the topography of the ravine below the house. The eastern boundary encompasses the land to either side of the ravine and the fields and woodland that provide the visual setting for the house. Beyond the eastern boundary lie approximately 20 acres which are under the same ownership but which do not contribute directly to the historic visual setting for Pleasant Hill.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:

VIRGINIA MUDD HOUSE

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

MD. RTE. 227

CITY OR TOWN:

POMFRET

STATE

MARYLAND

CODE

COUNTY:

CHARLES

CODE

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:

MISS. VIRGINIA MUDD

STREET AND NUMBER:

POMFRET

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

MARYLAND

CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

LAPIATA

STATE

MARYLAND

CODE

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A MID TO LATE 18th. CENTURY FARMHOUSE
OF FRAME CONSTRUCTION WITH "A" ROOF AND
SINGLE EXTERIOR DOUBLE FIVE CHIMNEY AT
THE E + W GABLE END,

THE HOUSE IS TWO STOREYS. THREE
BAYS IN LENGTH ~~(CENTER DOOR)~~ (CENTER DOOR), OF
ONE ROOM DEPTH WITH LARGE 2 STOREY PORCH
WITH 2nd. floor GALLERY AT THE FRONT (N).

THERE IS A LATER 1 ROOM 1 STOREY
ADDITION TO THE E GABLE,

THE FACADE FACES RTE. 227 AND
IS SITUATE ON THE S SIDE OF SAID ROAD
FROM RTE. 301 TO POMFRET.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

CH-78

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☒20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <i>J. R. Riviere</i>		DATE <i>3/70</i>
ORGANIZATION <i>Md. Hist. Trust</i>		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Annapolis</i>	STATE <i>md.</i>	CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

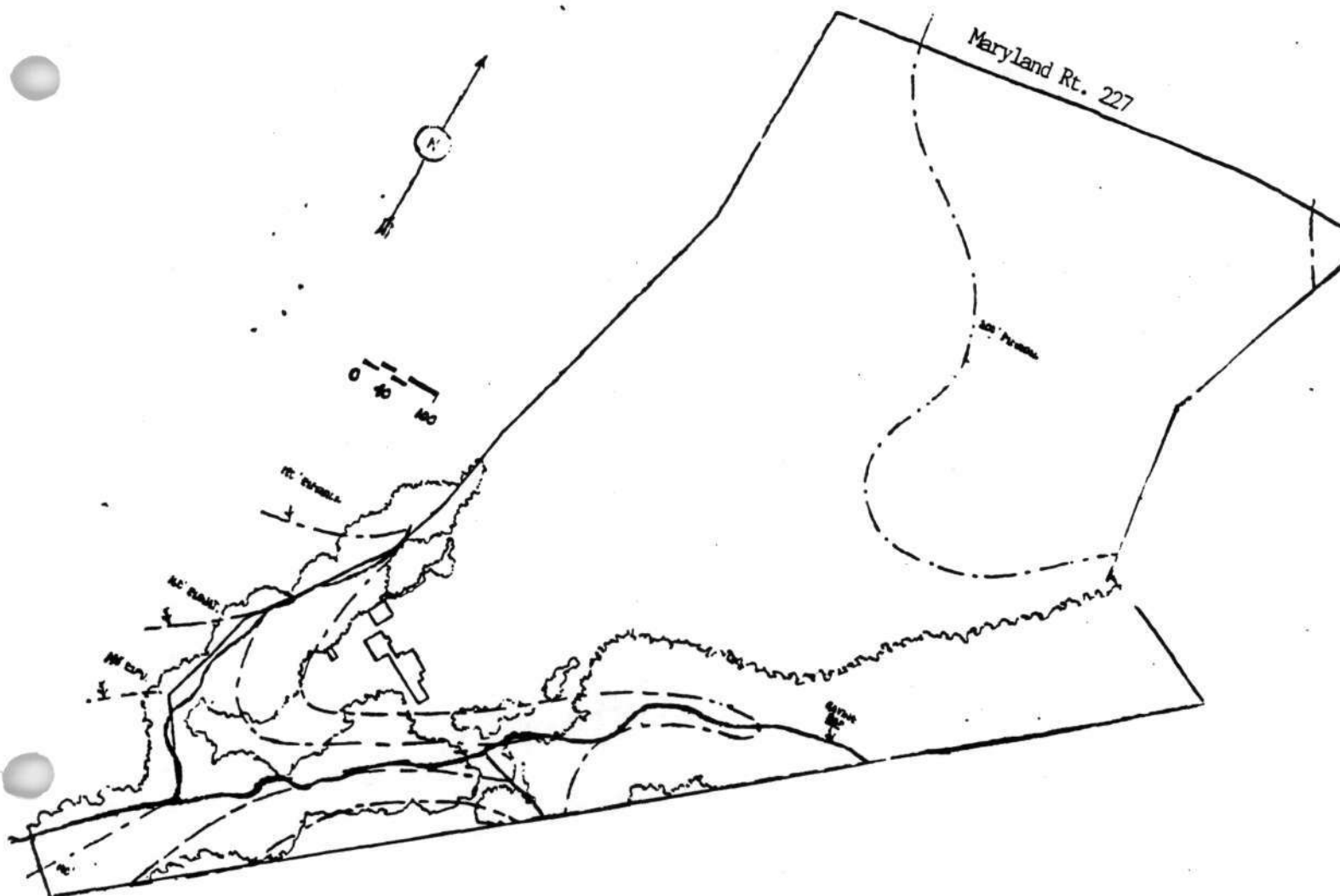
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Pleasant Hill
Charles County, MD

National Register Boundaries



6111 NE
T. VERNON

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

77°00' 326000m E. 327 BERRY (JUNC. MD. 228) 2 MI. 329
38°37'30" 4276000m N.

CH-78
PLEASANT HILL
CHARLES
COUNTY, MD

A: 18-326230-
4272980

B: 18-326460-
4273060

C: 18-326530-
4272850

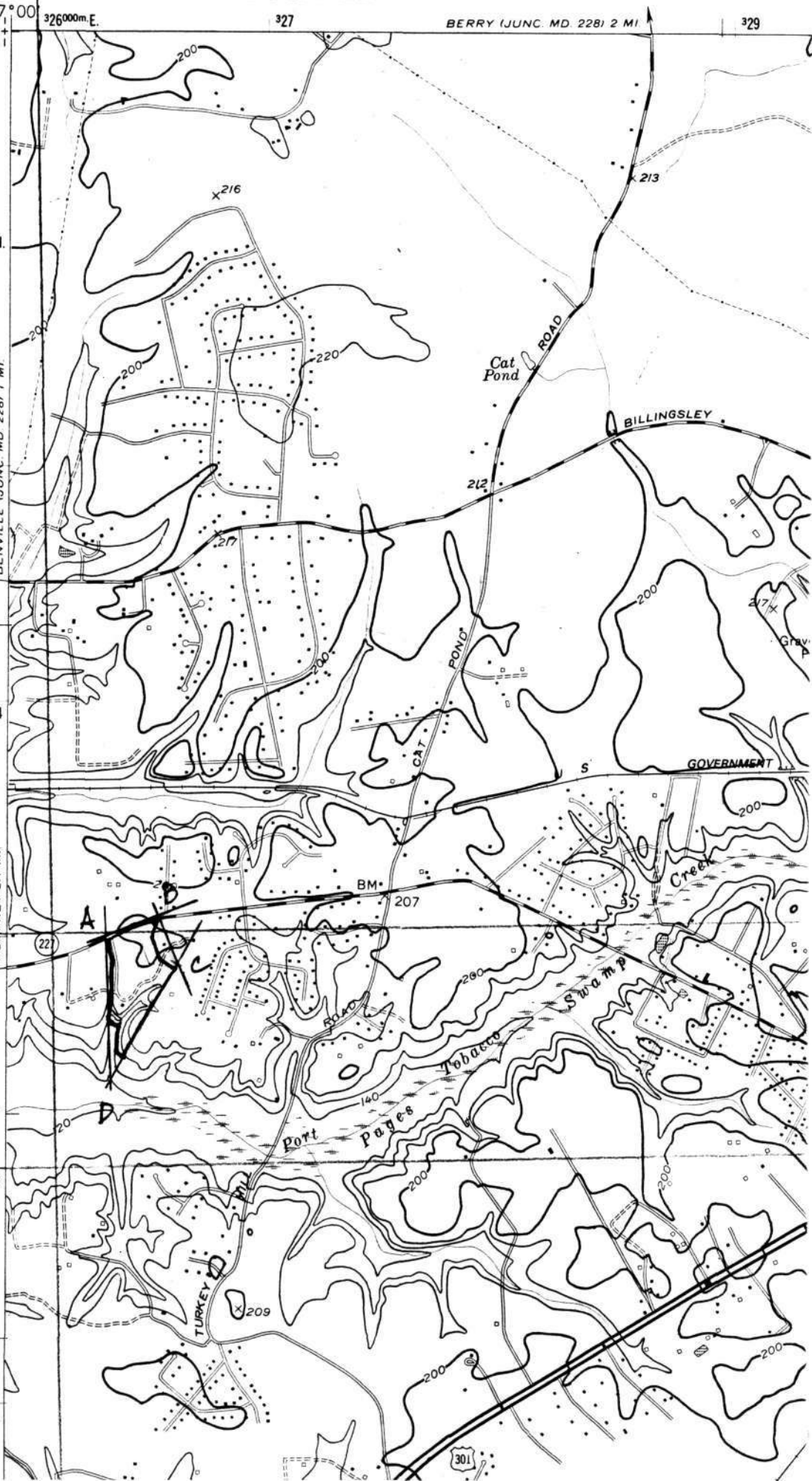
D: 18-326240-
4272350

POMONKEY 5.3 MI
POMFREY 2.1 MI.

35'

4272

4271





PLEASANT HILL, CH-18

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PLEASANT HILL FROM NE SHOWING SETTING (1990s GARAGE ON RIGHT)

1 OF 12

15354
#2
A81



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

EAST & NORTH FACADES FROM NE

2 OF 12

153154
#1
1-24A



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES CO., MARYLAND

BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

S FACADE FROM SOUTH, NEW KITCHEN
WING & HYPHEN ON LEFT

PHOTO 3 OF 12

153658
1=21A



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

NORTH & WEST FACADES FROM NW, 1990S HYPHEN & KITCHEN ON RIGHT

4 OF 12

153154
#2
1-13A



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

POOLHOUSE & PERGOLA FROM NE

5 OF 12

653154
#184



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

EAST & CENTER SECTIONS FROM NE SHOWING SHADOW
OF PERIOD II ROOFLINE ON EAST WALL OF CENTER
SECTION, FLEMISH BOND BRICK & DISTINCTIVE ENTABLATURE
OF EAST SECTION

6 OF 12

159154
#2
1204



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

INTERIOR: MANTEL IN PARLOR (WEST ROOM)
1ST FLOOR, MAIN BLOCK, VIEW FROM SE

7 OF 12

153154
#3
F10



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78
CHARLES COUNTY, MD
PHOTO: BETTY BIRD
NOVEMBER 1996
MD SHPO

INTERIOR: "JOHN SPALDING" SCRATCHED IN GLASS
SOUTH WALL OF MAIN BLOCK, VIEW FROM N

8 OF 12

153154
#3
1-21



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

INTERIOR: MANTEL & DOOR IN CHIMNEY PENT IN EAST ROOM (DINING ROOM)
1ST FLOOR OF MAIN BLOCK, VIEW FROM W

9 OF 12

LT
W#3
153154



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

INTERIOR: STAIR CASEMENT IN NW CORNER & BEADED BEAMS IN EAST ROOM (DINING ROOM)
1ST FLOOR OF MAIN BLOCK, VIEW FROM S

10 OF 12

MS
#1
#2
#3
#4
#5
#6
#7
#8
#9
#10
#11
#12



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

INTERIOR: STAIR TO GARRETT FROM 2ND FLOOR
MAIN BLOCK, VIEW FROM S

11 OF 12

183150
#315
11



PLEASANT HILL, CH-78

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

INTERIOR: DETAIL OF FRAMING IN BASEMENT, VIEW FROM NW

12 OF 12

11-11
#3
153154